

# Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission Report

September 2007

## USA Comments

### CHAPTER 2.5.10.

#### EQUINE VIRAL ARTERITIS

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##### Article 2.5.10.2.

*Veterinary Authorities of importing countries* should require:

for uncastrated male equines imported on a temporary basis for breeding or on a permanent basis

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the animals:

1. showed no clinical sign of EVA on the day of shipment and during the 28 days prior to shipment;
2. were isolated and subjected, to a test for EVA, as prescribed in the *Terrestrial Manual*, carried out either:
  - a) on a single blood sample collected during the 28 days prior to shipment with negative result, or
  - b) on blood samples taken on two occasions at least 14 days apart within 28 days prior to shipment, which demonstrated stable or declining antibody titres; or
3. were isolated and subjected between 6 and 9 months of age to a test for EVA, as prescribed in the *Terrestrial Manual*, carried out on two blood samples collected at least 14 days apart with stable or decreasing titre, immediately vaccinated for EVA and regularly revaccinated according to the manufacturer's instructions; or
4. were isolated and subjected to a test for EVA, as prescribed in the *Terrestrial Manual*, on a blood sample with negative results, immediately vaccinated for EVA, kept for 21 days following vaccination separated from other equidae and regularly revaccinated according to the manufacturer's instructions; or
5. have been subjected to a test for EVA, as prescribed in the *Terrestrial Manual*, carried out on a blood sample with positive results and then: either
  - a) were subsequently test mated to two mares within 12 months prior to shipment which were subjected to two tests for EVA as prescribed in the *Terrestrial Manual* with negative results on blood samples collected at the time of test mating and again 28 days after the mating; or
  - b) were subjected to a test for equine arteritis virus as prescribed in the *Terrestrial Manual* with negative results, carried out on semen collected during the 28 days prior to shipment.

## Article 2.5.10.3.

*Veterinary Authorities of importing countries* should require:

for uncastrated male equines imported on a temporary basis other than for breeding, and for equines other than uncastrated males

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the animals:

1. showed no clinical sign of EVA on the day of shipment and were kept in an *establishment* where no animals have shown any signs of EVA for the 28 days prior to shipment;
2. were isolated and subjected to a test for EVA, as prescribed in the *Terrestrial Manual*, carried out either:
  - a) on a single blood sample collected during the 28 days prior to shipment with negative results, or
  - b) on blood samples collected on two occasions at least 14 days apart within 28 days prior to shipment, which demonstrated stable or declining antibody titres;

OR

3. were isolated and subjected, between 6 and 9 months of age, to a diagnostic test for EVA, as prescribed in the *Terrestrial Manual*, carried out on two blood samples collected at least 14 days apart, with negative results or stable or declining titre, and immediately vaccinated for EVA and regularly revaccinated.

**General Comment on the suggested change:** The suggested changes to Articles 2.5.10.2 and 2.5.10.3 propose adding the text “isolated and” in several areas. While the concept of isolation is sound, the length of the isolation period is not clearly specified. If the intent is to specify an isolation period of 28 days, then for each instance, the appropriate wording should be “isolated for 28 days and”.